

Application No: 10/715,425
Attorney's Docket No: ALC 3097

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A content switch for use in routing packets in a computer based communications system comprising:

a parser for parsing a schema document associated with a packet and containing routing

~~rules; and~~ rules;

a routing instruction processor to interpret the routing rules in the schema

~~document~~ document, the routing instruction processor connected to a top side of the parser; and

an HTTP analysis layer connected to a bottom side of the parser, the bottom side being opposite the top side.

2. (Original) The content switch as defined in claim 1 for parsing XML-based language.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of carrying out content switching in a computer-based communications system comprising:

determining a routing action to be taken on packets of a flow associated with a document

written according to a schema wherein the determination is made by applying routing rules

~~contained in the schema to elements parsed from the document~~ document, and

routing the packets according to the determined routing action.

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wherein determining the routing action is performed by a routing instruction processor, the elements are parsed from the document by a parser, and the parser is connected between the routing instruction processor and an HTTP analysis layer.

4. (Original) The method as defined in claim 3 wherein an XML based language is used.

5. (Currently Amended) A system for use in routing traffic in a computer based communications network comprising:

a content switch having a routing instruction processor capable of interpreting routing rules in a document written according to a schema associated with a packet and applying the rules to elements in the network, the rules being parsed from the document by a parser, and means to determine a routing action to be performed on packets from a packet flow associated with the ~~document~~document.

wherein the parser is connected between the routing instruction processor and an HTTP analysis layer.

6. (Original) The system as defined in claim 5 for parsing XML-based languages.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program schema stored on a computer-readable medium for use in a computer based communications system having a routing instruction processor, a parser, and an HTTP analysis layer, the parser connected between the routing

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instruction processor and the HTTP analysis layer, the schema including routing rules, which, when accessed to parse a document written in the language of the schema, provide routing actions to be taken on packets belonging to a traffic flow associated with the ~~document~~document, and routing the packets accordingly.

8. (Original) The schema as defined in claim 7 wherein the routing rules are defined by an application provider.